

## ART 34 AMDT

- 16 -

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A radio frequency (RF) up-converter with reduced local oscillator leakage, for modulating an input signal  $x(t)$ , comprising:
  - a synthesizer for generating mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  which vary irregularly over time, where  $\phi_1 * \phi_2$  has significant power at the frequency of a local oscillator signal being emulated, and neither  $\phi_1$  nor  $\phi_2$  has significant power at the frequency of said local oscillator signal being emulated;
  - a first mixer coupled to said synthesizer for mixing said input signal  $x(t)$  with said mixing signal  $\phi_1$  to generate an output signal  $x(t) \phi_1$ ; and
  - a second mixer coupled to said synthesizer and to the output of said first mixer for mixing said signal  $x(t) \phi_1$  with said mixing signal  $\phi_2$  to generate an output signal  $x(t) \phi_1 \phi_2$ .
2. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1 wherein said synthesizer further comprises:
  - a synthesizer for generating mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , where  $\phi_1 * \phi_1 * \phi_2$  does not have a significant amount of power within the bandwidth of said output signal  $x(t) \phi_1 \phi_2$ .
3. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 2 wherein said synthesizer further comprises:
  - a synthesizer for generating mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , where  $\phi_2 * \phi_2$  does not have a significant amount of power within the bandwidth of said output signal  $x(t) \phi_1 \phi_2$ .
4. The converter of claim 3, further comprising:
  - a closed loop error correction circuit.
5. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 4, wherein said closed loop error correction circuit further comprises:
  - an error level measurement circuit for measuring an error in said output signal  $x(t) \phi_1 \phi_2$ ; and
  - a time-varying signal modification circuit for modifying a parameter of one of said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  to minimize said error level.

- 17 -

6. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said error level measurement circuit comprises a power measurement.
7. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said error level measurement circuit comprises a voltage measurement.
8. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said error level measurement circuit comprises a current measurement.
9. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said modified parameter is the phase delay of one of said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
10. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said modified parameter is the fall or rise time of one of said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
11. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 5, wherein said modified parameter includes both the phase delay and the fall or rise time of one of said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
12. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 3 wherein said synthesizer further comprises:  
a synthesizer for generating mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , where said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  can change with time in order to reduce errors.
13. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 3, further comprising:  
a DC offset correction circuit.
14. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 13, wherein said DC offset correction circuit comprises:  
a DC offset generating circuit for generating a DC offset voltage;  
a summer for adding said DC offset voltage to an output of one of said mixers; and  
a DC error level measurement circuit for modifying the level of said DC offset voltage to minimize error level.

- 18 -

- Sub 1*
15. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 14, wherein said DC error level measurement circuit comprises a power measurement circuit.
  16. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 14, wherein said DC error level measurement circuit comprises a voltage measurement circuit.
  17. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 14, wherein said DC error level measurement circuit comprises a current measurement circuit.
  18. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, further comprising:  
a filter for removing unwanted signal components.
  19. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 18, where said filter comprises:  
a filter for removing unwanted signal components from said  $x(t) \phi_1$  signal.
  20. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, wherein said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are random.
  21. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, wherein said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are pseudo-random.
  22. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, wherein said synthesizer uses a single time base to generate both mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
  23. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, wherein said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are digital waveforms.
  24. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, wherein said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are square waveforms.
  25. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 3, further comprising:  
a local oscillator coupled to said synthesizer for providing a periodic signal having a frequency that is an integral multiple of the frequency of said local oscillator signal being emulated.

- 19 -

26. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 4, wherein said closed loop error correction circuit comprises a digital signal processor (DSP).
27. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 4, wherein said closed loop error correction circuit comprises analogue components.
28. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 4, wherein said closed loop error correction circuit further comprises:  
an error level measurement circuit for measuring an error in said output signal  $x(t)$   
 $\phi_1$ ; and  
a time-varying signal modification circuit for modifying a parameter of one of said mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  to minimize said error level.
29. The radio frequency (RF) up-converter of claim 1, where said synthesizer uses different patterns to generate signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ .
30. A method of modulating a baseband signal  $x(t)$  comprising the steps of:  
generating mixing signals  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  which vary irregularly over time, where  $\phi_1 \neq \phi_2$   
has significant power at the frequency of a local oscillator signal being emulated, and neither  $\phi_1$  nor  $\phi_2$  has significant power at the frequency of said local oscillator signal being emulated;  
mixing said input signal  $x(t)$  with said mixing signal  $\phi_1$  to generate an output signal  $x(t) \phi_1$ ; and  
mixing said signal  $x(t) \phi_1$  with said mixing signal  $\phi_2$  to generate an output signal  $x(t) \phi_1 \phi_2$ .
31. An integrated circuit comprising the radio frequency (RF) up-converter of any one of claims 1 - 29.
32. A computer readable memory medium, storing computer software code in a hardware development language for fabrication of an integrated circuit comprising the radio frequency (RF) up-converter of any one of claims 1 - 29.

- 20 -

33. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, said computer data signal comprising computer software code in a hardware development language for fabrication of an integrated circuit comprising the radio frequency (RF) up-converter of any one of claims 1 - 29.